

# The Eagle



Newsletter for Veterans, Stakeholders, and Employees of the  
Coatesville VA Medical Center

Spring 2022

## Gynecological Care at the Coatesville VAMC

The medical center is equipped to handle all routine gynecological care to meet women's health and wellness needs in every phase of their life. We are excited to introduce Dr. Hema Jonnalagadda, she provides gynecological services at the Coatesville VAMC every Monday and Friday. Frequency and expanding our services, to include offering gynecological services at the CBOCs are being planned for the near future. Our goal is to partner with each woman, detect issues early, and offer the most effective treatment options to maintain a healthy life.

"We offer dignified and convenient access for our women Veterans and I encourage you to make an appointment for your gynecologic needs," says Dr. Jonnalagadda, "I like to see my cliental volume go up and remind all enrolled female Veterans that you are eligible to be seen in my clinic."

Dr. Jonnalagadda offers a wide range of services, from cancer screenings, birth control management, infertility, abnormal pap smear management, chronic pelvic pain, fibroids, menopause treatment to wellness counseling. If surgery or in-vitro fertilization is needed patients are then referred to either another VA center or for community care.



An overview of the gynecological services being offered include:

- Diagnosis and treatment of irregular bleeding and chronic pelvic pain
- Menopause treatment/care, including hormonal therapy
- Urinary incontinence evaluation and management
- Family planning and infertility evaluation
- Contraceptive counseling and care (IUD or Nexplanon insertion/removal)
- Evaluation for abnormal pap smears/HPV infections by colposcopy
- Evaluation of pelvic mass/cyst
- Referrals for surgeries, chemotherapy and for radiation oncology or urogynecology services

Gynecological services is a part of our Women's Health Program, which works as part of a team to expertly help our women Veterans maintain good health, provide quality care and lifestyle wellness services.

Contact us:

- Kanchan Jindal, Women Veteran Program Manager at [Kanchan.Jindal@va.gov](mailto:Kanchan.Jindal@va.gov)
- Dr. Hema Jonnalagadda at [Hema.Jonnalagadda@va.gov](mailto:Hema.Jonnalagadda@va.gov)



Kanchan Jindal and Dr. Hema Jonnalagadda



**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**  
Veterans Health Administration  
Coatesville VA Medical Center

**For a new appointment please call our  
Call Center at 610-383-0239.**

# Medical Center Director responds to the Asset and Infrastructure Review Report

I would like to assure our Veterans in Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties that the Coatesville Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) is here to serve you. You may be aware of the recommendation by the Asset and Infrastructure Review (AIR) Commission to replace Coatesville VAMC with a multi-specialty community-based outpatient clinic and move the medical center's Community Living Center or nursing home, residential rehabilitation treatment program and inpatient behavioral health unit to new facilities, some of which don't exist at this time.

The AIR report released March 14, marks the beginning of an in-depth deliberative process that will take place over the next year. Included in the report are recommendations to improve Veterans' access and quality of care as we move to provide more outpatient services and update our VA health care facilities for the modern era. The AIR report recommendations are just that, recommendations, they are not final.

A presidentially appointed AIR Commission panel will conduct public hearings as part of its review of the report's recommendations before submitting its own recommendations to the president in 2023. This means, if approved, these recommendations are many years away from implementation and completion.

As I have communicated with all the staff here at Coatesville VAMC, we need to continue to focus on providing the best possible care to the 19,000 Veterans we serve annually. The Coatesville VAMC will celebrate its 91st anniversary this May, through all those years, it was the dedication of generations of health care providers, administrative and environmental support staff who cared for our nation's heroes and we continue to do so each and every day.

Jeffrey A. Beiler II  
*Medical Center Director*

## My HealthVet (MHV)

You can send a secure message to your provider and get a response. MHV is an easy way to communicate with your health care team, refill VA prescriptions, view your medical record information and much more. Establish a MHV account, by simply contacting our MHV Coordinator, Amy Richardson, at 610-384-7711 ext. 5055 or by email [Amy.Richardson2@va.gov](mailto:Amy.Richardson2@va.gov).



## VSO-Claims Rep Service Expanded

**Need assistance to file a  
service-connected claim?**

- VSO-Claims Rep Service is now available at West Norriton VA Outpatient Clinic, every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.
- Main medical center now offers daily VSO-Claims Rep Service.

**Appointment time slots are available starting at  
9am and ending at 1:30pm.**

**To schedule an appointment call (610) 383-0239.**

# Piloting a Veterans Response Team Initiative

An effort to quickly connect Veterans to the resources they need in the community is now underway in Montgomery County.

Coatesville VAMC and Montgomery County have collaborated on a Veterans Response Team (VRT) to strengthen the relationship between key VA staff and community law enforcement agencies with the goal to train officers in helping Veterans access the care they need.

To be eligible for VRT training, officers must be a Veteran-officer who has graduated from the County Crisis Intervention Training.

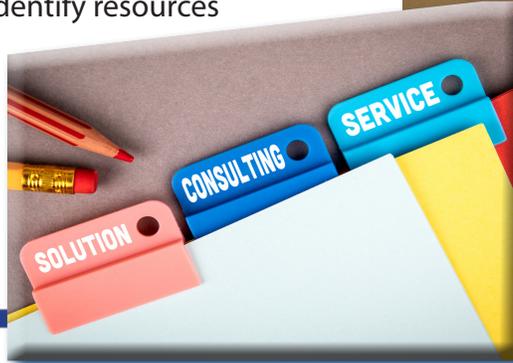
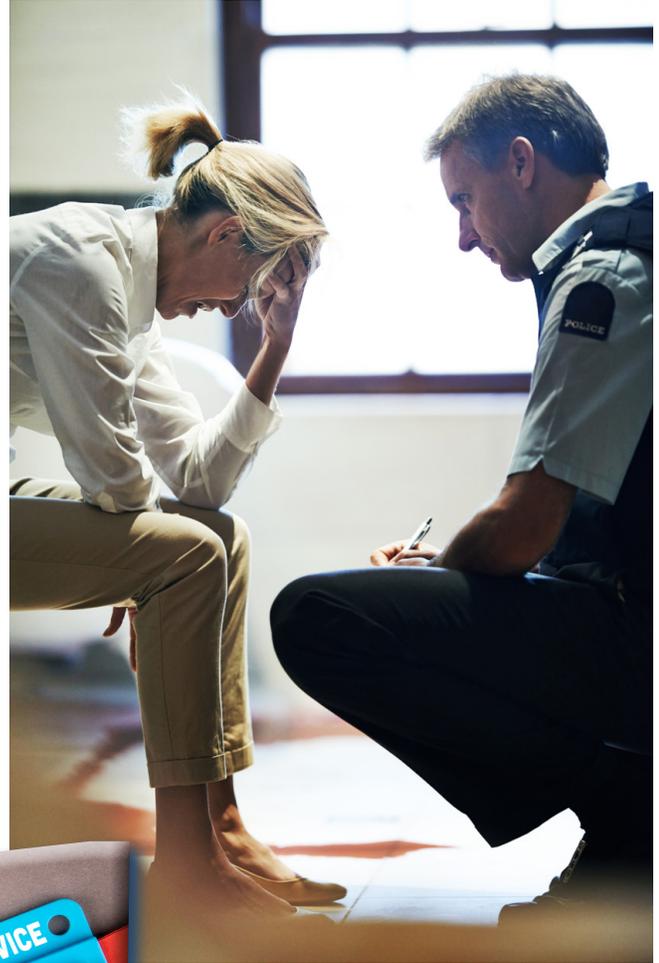
Montgomery County is working with Coatesville to pilot the VRT program by coordinating and conducting portions of the VRT training sessions for local law enforcement.

Officers learn the specific needs of Veterans and the common resources to assist them.

VA Resources and Montgomery County Veteran community resources cover crisis intervention, housing, counseling support and of course health care.

Lt Dennis Basmajian, a VA Police Officer and Rhonda Sanford, a Social Worker in the Veterans Justice Office, are Coatesville's liaisons to the Veterans Response team and work with representatives from the county to identify resources and make them available to Veterans within their community.

The team hopes to help grow the VRT program in Montgomery County and assist both Delaware and Chester County in developing their own teams in the future.



## Self-Identified Gender Identity option in VA health record



VA health records now display both, self-identified gender identity and preferred name, to address every Veteran respectfully. Gender identity matters in health care, because your needs are as unique as you are. Self-Identified Gender Identity helps VA staff and providers know your identity and use respectful terms during interactions.

The new self-identified gender identity field within a Veteran's medical record includes options of transgender male, transgender female, non-binary, other, or does not wish to disclose in addition to female or male.

The new field will be blank until you provide the information and it can be updated at any time. New enrollees can provide the information during their enrollment process, and previously enrolled Veterans can add it at their local VA facility by checking with clerical staff in a clinic or eligibility office.

## COVID-19 Vaccination/Booster



If interested, please call to schedule an appointment at (610) 384-7711 extension 5110.



A second Moderna booster dose has been approved; allowing a second booster vaccine to be administered at least 4 months after receipt of a first booster for:

- Individuals at least 50 years of age and older
- Individuals 18 years of age and older with certain kinds of immune compromise
- Individuals who received the J&J vaccine at least 4 months ago may now opt to be administered the Moderna vaccine

Connect with us at  
[www.va.gov/coatesville-health-care](http://www.va.gov/coatesville-health-care)  
and on Facebook



Facebook

For updates about our medical center operations, please view the **"Alert" & "Local Alerts"** section on our website  
[www.va.gov/coatesville-health-care](http://www.va.gov/coatesville-health-care)

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